

Drinking and Driving



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Resource Center
State of California
Alcohol and Drug Programs
1700 K Street
First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

(800) 879-2772 (California Only)
(916) 327-3728
FAX: (916) 323-1270
TTY: (916) 445-1942
Internet: <http://www.adp.ca.gov>
E-Mail: ResourceCenter@adp.state.ca.us

Drinking and Driving

Drinking and driving is an all too familiar tragic occurrence. More people are on the road, and more people are consuming alcohol as a part of their celebrations. Here are a few facts to help you know what you can do to make a difference.

The Facts You Should Know:

- There is an average of one alcohol-related fatality every 33 minutes.
- Most children who are killed in crashes where alcohol is involved die at the hands of someone they know.
- Two out of three children who die in these crashes are actually riding as passengers in a drunk driver's car when they are killed.
- The average American has a 30 percent chance of being killed or injured by an impaired driver during their lifetime. And while the number of alcohol-related fatalities are at an all-time low, impaired driving is still a leading cause of death for people under the age of 30.

Get the Keys: You Can Intervene

- If it is a close friend, try to use a soft, calm approach at first. Suggest to them they've had too much to drink and it would be better if someone else drove or if they took a cab.
- Be calm. Joke about it. Make light of it.
- Try to make it sound like you are doing them a favor.
- If it is somebody you don't know well, speak to their friends and have them make an attempt to obtain the keys.

- If it's a good friend, spouse, or significant other, tell them if they insist on driving you are not going with them. Suggest that you will ride with someone else, take a cab, or walk.
- Locate their keys while they are preoccupied and take them away. Most likely they will think they've lost them and will be forced to find another mode of transportation.
- If possible, avoid embarrassing the person or being controntational, particularly when dealing with men. They particularly dislike appearing vulnerable to the effects of alcohol.

